Curious about recent changes to

MEDICARE

prescription drug coverage?

Please join Senator Tom Colapietro, elder law Attorney Daniel O. Tully and representatives from the Center for Medicare Advocacy in a discussion of Medicare Part D changes.

Thursday, February 2, 2006, 1:00 p.m. Delorenzo Towers Community Room 284 North Main Street, Bristol



FROM YOUR STATE SENATOR

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PRESCRIPTION DRUG ASSISTANCE

Medicare Part D

Answers to your questions

Who is eligible?

People who have Medicare Part A or B will be eligible for Medicare drug coverage. They can enroll in any of the Part D plans that serve the area where they live.

When do you enroll?

In the first year of the program, the enrollment period is November 15, 2005—May 15, 2006. In future years, open enrollment is November 15th to December 31st annually. In 2006 only, you can change drug plans once until May 15th. After that, you must keep your plan until the next open enrollment period begins.

Will Part D drug plans differ?

Yes. Each drug plan can set and change its own formulary as long as its coverage is considered at least equivalent to the standard benefit.

Can I keep ConnPACE coverage?

ConnPACE participants must enroll in a Part D plan of their choice or ConnPACE will enroll you in a plan. ConnPACE participants will pay the annual ConnPACE \$30 registration fee and will pay no more than the \$16.25 ConnPACE prescription co-payment. ConnPACE will cover the Part D monthly premiums and will cover the annual Medicare Part D deductible of \$250. ConnPACE will also cover drugs in the "donut hole."









Is there help for people with low income?

Yes. A subsidy is available for people with incomes up to 135% of the Federal Poverty Level (approximately \$12,900 for an individual and \$17,320 for a couple) and assets of not more than \$7,500 per individual or \$12,000 per couple.

A partial subsidy is also available for people with incomes up to 150% (approximately \$14,350 per individual and \$19,245 for a couple) of the FPL and assets of not more than \$11,500 per individual or \$23,000 per couple.

Where can I get help understanding and enrolling in Part D?

Come to the Medicare Part D forum in Bristol on February 2 (more information on the reverse of this card). You may also contact the CHOICES program at the Elderly Services Division of the Department of Social Services: 1-800-994-9422 or on the Web at www.ctelderlyservices.state.ct.us/PubsFrm.htm. Additional information is available from Medicare's Web site at www.medicare.gov or by calling Medicare at 1-800-Medicare (633-4227).